

This demo will provide you an overview of IBM Rational Method Composer, a process management tool for method authoring and configuration. Rational Method Composer also includes method libraries for software and systems development and for the enterprise, including the IBM Rational Unified Process.

There are two main components of Rational Method Composer. One is content. The other is the ability to author and publish the content.

First, the content.

The biggest value that users of Rational Method Composer can get out of the product is method libraries – the method content and processes. Rational Method Composer contains out-of-the-box process libraries supporting various project types across the enterprise.

Rational has harvested over 20 years of experience from thousands of projects in both internal software and systems development and especially working with customers with their own software and systems development efforts. We have captured this experience into the Rational Unified Process, or RUP. Rational

IBM and Rational also have vast experience in enterprise management. This experience has been captured and documented in additional method libraries, resulting in guidance for IT service management, program and portfolio management, governance and compliance.

As you can see, there is guidance for numerous project types for software and systems development including service-oriented architecture, maintenance, systems engineering, COTS, modeling, measurement, J2EE, and .NET.

This guidance can be published using Rational Method Composer for easy access by your development team through website browsing and context-sensitive help.

For example, you can use the out-of-the-box process for software development, which is the Rational Unified Process.

Or if you have a systems engineering project, you can publish the RUP for Systems Engineering Development method.

And if you plan on utilizing service-oriented architecture for a third project in your organization, you can publish the RUP for SOA Implementation method.

And Rational Method Composer has guidance for enterprise needs including SOA Governance, Compliance Management, portfolio and program management, and IT service management with the IBM Tivoli Unified Process.

Project team members can easily access the methods and process by browsing the published websites.

For example, if you wish to view how requirements are managed through the Requirements Discipline, just click on the hyperlinked text or graphics...

And details about the Requirements Discipline will appear, showing how to elicit stakeholders, capture requirements, create use cases, and develop a vision.

These are important tasks for managing your requirements.

You can also browse the method content by roles. For example, let's say your role on the project is a business architect. You can use the navigation tree and click on Role Set, then expand Analysts and click on Business Architect.

This will bring up the details on what the Business Architect needs to do – your tasks – and what work products you are responsible for.

You can also browse the method from a delivery process or work breakdown structure perspective. The delivery process not only gives you the what tasks need to be performed, but it also gives you sequence or time-line. In other words, what activities should be done first, then what needs to be done next, and so forth.

Click on Delivery Process in the navigation tree and expand and click on an activity diagram.

In this case, we want to see what activities are performed in the Inception Phase.

For this project, we can see the graphical sequence of activities in the activity diagram.

Scroll down,

And you can also see the sequence of activities in the work breakdown structure.

Now we will show you some of Rational Method Composer's authoring and process customization capabilities.

Of course, not all projects are the same, so you need authoring and customization capability. Rational Method Composer provides this in an Eclipse-based tool environment.

You can browse your method library.

Manage your published configurations

And author or customize your method content through a form-based editor.

Let's go through this simple example for creating new content. In this example, we want to create a new artifact work product. Select the appropriate place in the method library and right-click select New>Artifact.

And then in the form-based editor, fill in the name and detailed information.

After creating the artifact, you can add a relationship. This artifact will be generated or produced by a certain task that's already defined in the content. In this case, it's the Capture Detail Architecture task.

Go to the task and in the editor, click on Work Products and add the artifact by clicking on the add button next to Output.

Find and select your newly created detailed_architecture artifact and press OK.

You now have the relationship defined.

After making your customizations, you can then publish your method or process.

You do this by first creating a new configuration. A configuration defines what you want to include in your published website.

Select the configuration and publish.

Work breakdown structures defined in Rational Method Composer can also be exported and imported into your project management tool such as Rational Portfolio Manager or Microsoft Project for process execution.

In this case, we'll export for Microsoft Project...

An XML file is exported, which and then be imported into your project management tool. Here, we use Microsoft Project.

The Work Breakdown Structure appears. Roles and dependencies are carried over.

You can now execute the process.

This conclude this very quick demo on IBM Rational Method Composer.

For more information, please visit IBM.com.